

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment adds Claims 17 to 25 to the application, which were presented in parent Application No. 09/172,262, in the Amendment dated October 7, 2002, and subsequently withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner for allegedly being directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed in the parent application. Entry hereof and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

U.S. Patent No. 5,155,527
U.S. Patent No. 5,398,305
U.S. Patent No. 5,584,590
U.S. Patent No. 5,699,494
U.S. Patent No. 5,755,521
U.S. Patent No. 5,774,155
U.S. Patent No. 6,141,028

Japan 3-271781
Japan 8-69458
Japan 9-30073
Japan 9-152750
Japan 9-255172

These documents were cited in parent U.S. Patent Application No. 09/172,262, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these

documents. See MPEP § 609. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the attached form PTO-1449.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 50,957

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 66834 v 1